

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A cervical intervertebral prosthesis, comprising two cover plates configured to be connected to adjacent vertebral bodies, a securing plate separate from and not connected to the cover plates which secures only one of the cover plates and is configured to be fastened to a ventral surface of the one of the vertebral bodies, and a prosthesis core which forms an articular joint with one of the cover plates,

wherein at least one of the cover plates is provided with a limit stop surface facing in a dorsal direction relative to the vertebral bodies configured to lie against its associated adjacent vertebral body and formed by a rear side of a transverse flange on a ventral edge of the at least one of the cover plates relative to an implanted position.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to Claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the securing plate is biodegradable.

4. (Currently Amended) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to Claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the securing plate is a circular disk.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to Claim 3, wherein the securing plate is a circular disk.

7.-9. (Canceled)